

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/656,570

Examiner

Courtney D. Fields

Applicant(s)

GOODMAN ET AL.

Art Unit

2137

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 21 June 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-6 and 26.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claim 6 has been amended.
2. Claims 7-25 has been cancelled.
3. Claims 1-2, 4-6, and 26 are pending.

Drawings

4. The drawings were received on 29 June 2006. These drawings are acceptable.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed 28 December 2005 have been fully considered and they are persuasive.

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims **1-2,4-6 and 26** are allowed.
7. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The present invention is directed toward a method and system for securing a personal computer from malicious code contained in a file downloaded onto a personal computer from an external data source. Each independent claim identifies the uniquely distinct features "**providing an isolated secondary operating environment functioning separate from the primary operating system, controlling operations of the personal computer within the isolated secondary operating system, wherein the personal computer is secured from malicious code contained in a file downloaded from the external data source**". The closest prior art, Tremain (Pub No. 2002/0069369) discloses a method and apparatus for providing computer services, across a network by making available what is referred to herein as "virtual servers",

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optionally using "virtual networks". However, either singularly or in combination, Tremain fail to anticipate or render the claimed limitations providing an isolated secondary operating environment functioning separate from the primary operating system, controlling operations of the personal computer within the isolated secondary operating system, wherein the personal computer is secured from malicious code contained in a file downloaded from the external data source. The closest prior, White et al. (US Patent No. 6,526,488) discloses a method and apparatus for controlling access to and corruption of information in a computer system by controlling access to the modification of information stored on a storage medium forming part of a computer system comprising: dividing information stored on the storage medium into a plurality of non-overlapping partitions including a boot partition and at least one general partition, characterized by: designating at least one of said partitions a Write Many Recoverable (WMR) partition wherein, in use, if a write command is issued to overwrite any resident information stored in a/the WMR partition by updating information is written on the storage medium in a location other than where the resident information is stored and a (virtual) pointer to the updated information is set up/kept so that the updated information can be accessed, as required during a remainder of a session. However, either singularly or in combination, White et al. fail to anticipate or render the claimed limitations providing an isolated secondary operating environment functioning separate from the primary operating system, controlling operations of the personal computer within the isolated secondary operating system, wherein the personal computer is

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secured from malicious code contained in a file downloaded from the external data source.

8. Therefore, **claims 1 and 26** and the respective **dependent claims 2 and 4-6** are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Courtney D. Fields whose telephone number is 571-272-3871. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thurs. 6:00 - 4:00 pm; off every Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

COJ
cdf

September 2, 2006

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Matthew Smithers
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2137